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BOOK REVIEWS

IN CHARGE OF

M. E. CAMERON, R.N.

DISEASES OF CHILDREN. A Practical Treatise on Diagnosis and Treatment. For the Use of Students and Practitioners of Medicine. By Benjamin Knox Rachford, Professor of Diseases of Children, Ohio Miami Medical College; Department of Medicine of the University of Cincinnati; Pediatrician to the Cincinnati Hospital and to the Jewish Hospital; ex-president of the American Pediatric Society and Member of the Association of American Physicians. Price, $6.00. D. Appleton & Co., New York and London.

This book belongs only in the reference library for nurses; as its title indicates that it is concerned with diagnosis and treatment. The book analyzes the normal child and the child in disease, covering the subject with minute care through all its branches.

SURGICAL NURSING AND HOSPITAL TECHNIC. By C. A. Howell, M.D., Member of the Columbus Academy of Medicine, of the Ohio State Medical Society, of the American Medical Association. Visiting Surgeon to the Grant Hospital. Published by the Author, 70 First Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Delivered in the form of lectures to the nurses of the Grant Hospital, of the Protestant Hospital, and of the State Hospital of Columbus —this book is given in what may almost be considered an *edition de luxe* —with its many halftone illustrations, its extremely heavy paper and excellent binding. It gives us surgical nursing from the surgeon's point of view and contains the latest word on surgical technic and the ideal operating-room.

The writer is entirely in sympathy with the struggle for higher education for nurses. He believes that while discipline may and does form an important feature of the training of the nurse that she must also have the best teaching in theoretic work as well as in practical. He states emphatically that in the preparation for the work of guarding and protecting human life there should be no place for the fear of over-edu-

cation; and furthermore that it is his own conviction that "the well-informed nurse is one of the greatest assets that a surgeon can possess."

The author begins with sketches of the life of Florence Nightingale; the rise of the Red Cross Society; the dawn of antisepsis, as though he would have the nurse bear in mind that her profession is not devoid of opportunities for attaining fame—and for place in the forward movement of the world. Apart from its value as a text-book this work will make good reading, for it contains much to stimulate and encourage those who are engaged in the practice of nursing.

APPLIED BACTERIOLOGY FOR NURSES. By Charles F. Boldnan, M.D., Assistant Medical Officer, Department of Health of the City of New York, and Marie Grund, M.D., Bacteriologist, Department of Health of the City of New York. Price, $1.25 net. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, London.

Teachers and students of bacteriology will find in this book a valuable aid to the study of the topic. It is arranged to go hand in hand with practical demonstrations, suggestions for which are to be found at the end of each chapter.

The following extract from the preface seems to convey exactly the character of the book and the uses for which it was designed: "Bacteriology dominates so large a part of the art of nursing that a correct understanding of the more important facts and principles of that science is an indispensable part of every nurse's mental equipment. In the following pages emphasis has been laid on the immediate application of the subject to nursing, and only enough general bacteriology has been introduced to give the student a clear conception of the principles underlying her work."

The ordinary modes of transmission of disease due to infection are thoroughly discussed; the practice of disinfection by different forms of heat, as steam, hot water, dry heat; also by chemicals; the collection of material for bacteriological examination, the proper manner of handling the same are given in detail; but the authors call attention to the need of extensive practical demonstration work and laboratory exercises for the student.